

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 05392 061721Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10 CIAE-00
DODE-00 EA-10 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 IO-13 L-03
NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 DOE-15
CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00
INRE-00 /143 W

-----020105 061725Z /70

O 061706Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4869
INFO USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652 N/A

SUBJECT: LONDON SUNDAY TIMES PIECE ON ERW

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED TODAY FROM JOHN BARRY, MANAGING
EDITOR OF THE SUNDAY TIMES, A LETTER STATING THE TIMES
IS DOING A MAJOR PIECE ON ERW. AS HE DESCRIBES IT:

QUOTE WE ARE TRYING TO PREPARE, FOR PUBLICATION
THIS WEEK, AN ANALYSIS OF THE DIPLOMATIC ASPECTS OF THE
SO-CALLED NEUTRON BOMB: BROADLY, WHO HAS BEEN SAYING
WHAT TO WHOM OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS.

QUOTE I HAVE TO SAY THAT THE EVIDENCE SO FAR
SUGGESTS THE THOUGHT THAT THE EUROPEANS HAVE NOT BEHAVED
PARTICULARLY WELL OVER THE ISSUE. IN PRIVATE, THE NPG

APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN IN FAVOUR OF THE DEVICE SINCE 1974,
INDEED TO HAVE BEGUN TO INCORPORATE IT INTO THEIR
PLANNING -- ONLY TO HAVE THEIR GOVERNMENTS BACK OFF
WHEN THE THING WENT PUBLIC.

QUOTE WE ARE, OF COURSE, TALKING WITH PEOPLE, BOTH
IN WASHINGTON AND IN VARIOUS EUROPEAN CAPITALS. BUT IT
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SEEMS FOOLISH NOT TO TRY TO TALK WITH YOU, OR WITH
WHOMEVER YOUR EXPERT ON THE ISSUE INSIDE THE EMBASSY
MAY BE. UNQUOTE

WE HAVE REPLIED TO BARRY BY PHONE AND SAID THAT,
SINCE THE DECISION ON THIS SUBJECT IS BEING TAKEN IN
WASHINGTON, WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO BE HELPFUL ON
ANY BASIS AND THAT HE SHOULD ADDRESS QUESTIONS TO

WASHINGTON.

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

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